

81a-1945

Historical- Homes and Hospitals

Unscrupulous Atlanta World Handling Of 2-1-45 G2. Funds Charged

By HARRY S. McALPIN
(Washington Correspondent of
Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

WASHINGTON—Officials of the Tuskegee Veterans Facility in Alabama were accused of closing their eyes to conditions operating to the detriment of Negro veterans by Dr. Charles Prudhomme, Neuro-Psychiatrist at Freedmen's hospital and formerly on the staff at the Tuskegee hospital, in a talk before the Capitol Press Club here Wednesday. 2-1-45

Dr. Prudhomme declared that mentally ill veterans at the Tuskegee institution who are adjudged incompetent are allowed to become victims of unscrupulous guardians appointed to handle the funds accumulating from their compensation. He said the guardianship of the veterans has been permitted to grow into a racket and that many a veteran never sees any benefits from the funds paid in his name by the government. All the guardian appointed are white, he declared and some of them handle the funds for as many as 30 or 40 Negro veterans. All this, he says, is known by the officials of the veterans facility but nothing is done about it. **SOME GOT IN "HOT WATER"**

The doctor also accused the officials of the institution of "stopping the doctors on the staff from seeking adjustments of cases diagnosed as psychiatric by the Army at the time of discharge even when the men under close scrutiny and study by staff psychiatrists are adjudged sane and mentally well. Some of the doctors, he declared, who tried to change the diagnosis got into "hot water." Under pressure, Dr. Prudhomme said that Dr. Eugene Dibble, head of the hospital, told the doctors they would have to stop changing diagnoses sent in by the Army.

No help, stated the doctor, could be obtained from the headquarters of the veterans administration in Washington. Dr. Charles M. Griffith, medical director of the administration, once told him, he declared, "that you men cannot go down there and change things."

Dr. Frederick Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, and Dr. Dibble constituted a "stone wall to progress" at the Veterans Facility, he said. "They set the policies and there is nothing you can do about

it," he said. Patterson, Dr. Prudhomme said, gets into the picture because he is regarded as the representative of 10 million Negroes below Mason-Dixon line, though he has no official connection with the hospital.

Dr. Prudhomme and 12 others resigned from the Tuskegee hospital in protest against existing conditions when they were unable to get transfers sometime ago.

Lily-White Naval Academy Under Focus Again as Brown Enters:

Negro Attends Annapolis For Third Time Since 1874

By FLORENCE MURRAY

New York, N.Y.

Special

For the third time since 1874 the attention of Negroes throughout the country will be focused on the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis as the sixth Negro to enter the gates of this traditionally lily-white institution begins his studies there. He is Wesley A. Brown of New York and Washington, D. C., son of Mrs. Rosetta K. Brown, who was nominated by Congressman Adam Clayton Powell several months ago. No Negro has been graduated from Annapolis. The young man, a graduate of Dunbar High School, will have no bed of roses unless the academy has liberalized its attitude in the past few years. He was a student at Howard University under the Army Specialized Training Course when he was named to attend the school.

The acceptance of Brown by the registrar of Annapolis means that he has been successful in passing his entrance examinations, both mental and physical, which is no easy task in itself.

The young man's entrance calls to mind the fate of the last two Negroes at Annapolis, in 1936 and 1937, one of whom stirred a sensational nation-wide protest because of the discriminatory treatment he is reported to have received there at the hands of the students and faculty.

7-21-45
DISMISSAL PROTESTED

This man, James Lee Johnson, who is one of the flyers in the present war, trained in the 99th Pursuit Squadron at Tuskegee, was finally ousted from the school by a deficiency grade in English. He entered the Academy in 1936, having been nominated by Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois.

His dismissal was protested as an act of prejudice by the Negro press and his mother, Mrs. Gertrude Johnson of Washington, D. C., who wrote a series of articles on the affair for the newspapers, in which she explained the harsh treatment her son had experienced in the form of undue acts of hazing in an effort to lower his department grade. She further pointed out that Johnson had made



MIDSHIPMAN W. A. BROWN

excellent grades in English during his high school and college career, and that his scholastic record had been so outstanding that he had been accepted at the school without an examination.

The next year Congressman Mitchell named two other Negroes to attend the school: James J. Minor and George J. Trivers. The latter entered without having to take a mental examination because of his previous high scholastic standing, but he resigned after eighteen days at the school, giving ill health as his reason. The former did not pass the examinations.

The other Negroes who had en-

tered Annapolis, none of whom were graduated, registered between 1872 and 1874. They were John Henry Conyers (1872), Alonzo C. McClellan (1873), and Henry E. Baker, jr (1874). According to Academy records, the first two resigned: Conyers, thirteen months after his entry, and McClellan, six months later. They were forced out because of deficiency grades given them in their studies. Baker is recorded as having been dismissed.

WEST POINT BETTER

The West Point Military Academy, whose record is more liberal than that of the naval officers' training school, has graduated ten Negroes, one of them completing his training this summer—2nd Lt. Mark E. Rivers (now enrolled in the Artillery School at Fort Sill, Okla.).

In all, 28 Negroes have attended West Point, with four of them enrolled at present: Andrew A. McCoy, jr, of Pennsylvania; Edward B. Howard of Washington; Charles L. Smith of Missouri; and Edward R. Willis of Michigan. Frank A. Titus of Illinois resigned in 1944.

Others who were graduated were:

Henry O. Flipper of Georgia, 1877; John H. Alexander of Ohio, 1887; Charles Young of Ohio (who later became a colonel), 1889; Col. Benjamin O. Davis, jr (now commander of the 477th Bombardment Group), 1936.

Major James Fowler of Illinois (with the 372nd Infantry, Central Pacific), 1941; Major Clarence M. Davenport of Michigan (with the 742nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Bn.,

East Indies), 1943; Capt. Robert B. Tresville of Illinois (reported killed in action last year), 1943; 2nd Lt. Henry M. Francis of Washington (with the 3rd Infantry Training Bn.), 1944; 2nd Lt. Ernest J. Davis, jr, of Illinois (at Tuskegee Army Air Field), 1945.

Negro Boy Named Named To Annapolis

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—The first Negro since 1937 to be named to the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis was announced by the Navy Department Saturday. He is 18-year-old Wesley A. Brown of Washington, D. C., a former cadet colonel at Dunbar High School. He was designated by Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., of New York.

Brown is the son of Mrs. Rosetta K. Brown. At Dunbar he was active in track and basketball. He enlisted in the Army in 1943 in order to study at Howard University under the ASTC.

No Negro has ever graduated from the academy.

CHICOPEE MASS. HERALD
JULY 12, 1945

Just In Passing

By FRANCES O'CONNELL CORRIDAN

FEAST DAYS:

July 12—St. John Gaul.
July 13—St. Anacletus.
July 14—St. Bonaventure.
July 15—St. Henry.
July 16—Mt. Carmel.
July 17—St. Alexius.
July 18—St. Camillus.

WHAT THEIR COLOR NOW?

(Thomas F. Doyle)

What is their color now—these dead
Who lie deep down in strange, far
earth,
These soldiers, white and black and

brown,
Close linked in new and common
birth?
What matters now, here in this
place
Of deep solemnity, where words
Are spoken not or crowded in air
Like mournful cries of lonely birds?
Only the soul is deep attuned
To hear in all this silent space
The endless thunder of a thousand
lips
Mocking the name and thought of
race.
Why ask their color now—these
dead
At rest in this most hallowed spot
Where only wonder is that men
Should see and know their brothers
not?

"Liberty and Justice for All."

"I pledge allegiance to the American flag." Every school child from kindergarten to high school senior begins the school day with this dedication. The vast majority daily repeat the forthright words. Millions grow up to accept this pledge in the full spirit as well as in the last letter of each word. The honor rolls in great cities and tiny hamlets throughout America testify to the numbers who have redeemed this pledge with their lives.

"Liberty and justice for all." High sounding and splendid words, but words which the whole of America has not realized to the full. Justice still lags behind liberty in our daily life, otherwise prejudice and discrimination would have vanished especially in war time when men and women of every racial strain, every religious belief, every shade of color have

poured out their hearts' last drop of blood for their America. Justice still lags behind Liberty or such a poem as "What Their Color Now" would not have the impact it has today.

Americans sincerely opposed to discrimination will watch the career of the young colored youth appointed this week to the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. Because Liberty triumphed five different brilliant boys of Negro extraction have won appointments to the Academy. Because discrimination was stronger than justice, not one has survived to graduate.

How this latest young man suc-

ceeds will be largely the measure of our own progress along the path laid down by this nation's founding fathers who expected of this "brave new world" "Liberty and Justice for All."

Annapolis Gets Black Dispatch Sixth Negro Cadet Oklahoma, City

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — (AP) — The sixth Negro cadet in the lily-white history of America's Naval academy will begin his studies here next semester.

He is Wesley A. Brown, of New York and Washington, who was selected by Rep. Adam Clayton Powell. He was an honor graduate at Dunbar High school and attended Howard university under the army specialized training course. 9-1-45

According to Naval academy records, no Negro has ever been a member of its graduating class. Brown's five predecessors, academy record reveal, have always been ousted on some charge, which has served to keep the tradition that brand Annapolis as a historic lily-white service school.

Ousting of the last two Negroes from here in 1936 and 1937 caused a sensational nation-wide protest. James Lee Johnson, a member of the 99th Fighter squadron, was ousted from the school because of a deficiency grade in English, school records show. He was nominated by Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell of Illinois.

His mother, Mrs. Gertrude Johnson, of Washington, D. C., wrote a series of newspaper articles in which she explained the abusive treatment her son had received. He had made excellent grades in English during his high school and college career, she explained, and his scholastic record had been so outstanding that he had been accepted at Annapolis without an examination.

Congressman Mitchell appointed two more to the academy the next year but something happened to them. 9-1-45

James J. Minor and George J. Trivers entered but never graduated. Trivers entered without having to submit to a mental examination on the basis of his previous high scholastic rating, but he resigned 18 day after entering the school, giving ill health the reason. Minor did not pass the examinations, school officials say.

Other Negro cadets who were kicked out of the academy between 1872 and 1874 were: Henry Conyers (1872), Alonzo C. McCellan (1873), and Henry E. Baker Jr., (1874). The first two resigned,

academy records revealed; Conyers, 13 months after his entry, and McCellan, six months later. They were forced out on deficiency records and Baker was dismissed on other grounds.

On the other hand, 28 Negroes have graduated from West Point. The last to graduate was 2nd Lt. Mark E. Rivers, who is now enrolled in the artillery school at Fort Sill, Okla.

Naval Academy Negro Getting Bad Break

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23 — (AP) — Rep. Powell (D., N. Y.) has complained to Navy Secretary Forrestal that his 1945 Negro nominee to the Naval Academy "is not receiving fair and equal treatment."

Forrestal advised the Negro congressman he will ask the academy superintendent for a complete report. 10-23-45

Powell said the Naval Academy never has had a Negro graduate, but "given a decent break, the young man now attending the academy has an excellent chance of being the first Negro to be graduated from this institution."

Ill Treatment Of Negro Laid To Navy School

The Courier Journal
Congressman Asks

Investigation of Case Louisville, Kentucky

Washington, Oct. 22 (AP) — Representative Powell (D., N.Y.) has complained to Navy Secretary Forrestal that his 1945 Negro nominee to the Naval Academy "is not receiving fair and equal treatment."

Forrestal advised the Negro congressman he will ask the academy superintendent for a complete report.

Powell issued a statement quoting the letter he wrote the Navy Secretary as follows:

"It has been brought to my attention, through a most reliable source, that my 1945 nominee to the U. S. Naval Academy (Midshipman Wesley A. Brown) is not receiving fair and equal treatment. I, therefore, wish to go on record . . . that I have written you of this matter so that if anything develops in the future we will have this as proof of the fact that both of us were warned in advance.

Pleads for 'Decent Break.'

"I have been told that a 'concerted' effort is being made to bring about his dismissal—that his papers are being undergraded—and that he is not being in-

formed in advance concerning offenses for which demerits are to be given.' I have received no communication from this young man which would indicate that he has the slightest inkling of such a 'campaign' and this information comes from other sources.

"It is particularly important that this be passed on for what it is worth to the proper authorities in charge of the Naval Academy."

Powell said the Naval Academy never has had a Negro graduate but "given a decent break, the young man now attending the academy has an excellent chance of being the first Negro to be graduated from this institution."

Powell's Claims 'A Surprise'

Mother Denies Midshipman Mistreated at Annapolis

Pittsburgh Courier

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Following charges made last week to Secretary of Navy Forrestal by Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. that his appointee to the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Wesley Brown, was being mistreated, the young midshipman's mother, Mrs. Rosetta K. Brown, has uttered a complete denial of the charge.

Mrs. Brown said she had recently visited her son at the academy and that he was "getting along fine."

GETS GOOD GRADES

"Wesley has been on the (plebe class) tennis team and the track team," she continued. "Ever since he's been there he's been getting good marks. I never heard anything from him about this."

Pointing out that Congressman Powell's letter had been written without her knowledge, Mrs. Brown added: "I talked with several of his friends Sunday, and they all said they thought he was swell."

TO RUN IN RACE 11-3-45
In reply to a question as to whether her son had mentioned anything about being unhappy at Annapolis, Mrs. Brown replied, "No, Wesley hasn't said a thing to me except that he is getting along fine. And he expects to run in a race this week. They wouldn't let him do it if they were trying to dismiss him, would they?"

81a-1945

U.S. Army

28 Negro Cadets Admitted To West Point Since 1870

and July 1, 1945, twenty-eight Negroes have been admitted to the academy.

Ten of the twenty-eight have been graduated with commissions as second lieutenants, one resigned and thirteen were separated before graduation because of deficiencies.

Presently in attendance at the academy are Andrew A. McCoy Jr., Pennsylvania; Charles L. Smith, Missouri; Edward B. Howard, Illinois, and Edward R. Wills, Michigan.

In the period between July 1, 1870 and the corresponding date this year, there have been twenty-eight colored cadets entered in West Point with ten of the number being graduated with commissions as second lieutenants in the various Arms and Services.

One entrant resigned, thirteen were separated before graduation for deficiencies and four are presently pursuing the course of study. Illinois leads the states with nine entrants while Ohio and South Carolina trail with four. Michigan sent three candidates and New York two, while Tennessee, Florida, Georgia, Virginia, Missouri and Pennsylvania have one each.

Graduates now on active duty, with their assignments include:

Col. B. O. Davis, Jr., commanding officer, 477th Composite Group, Godman Field, Ky.; Major James D. Fowler, 372nd Infantry Regiment, Central Pacific Area; Major Clarence M. Davenport, 742nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion, Fort McClelland, Ala.; 2nd Lieutenant Ernest J. Davis, Jr., Fighter Transition School, Tuskegee Army Air Field, Ala.; and 2nd Lieutenant Mark E. Rivers, Jr., Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Captain Robert B. Tresville, Jr., squadron commander of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy, has been declared dead after being missing in action in the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations.

28 in 75 Years

FOUR NEGROES AT WEST POINT

Pittsburgh Courier

WASHINGTON—There are four Negroes presently enrolled in the United States Military Academy at West Point, N. Y., the War Department announced this week. The department revealed that during the intervening period, July 1, 1870

28 ADMITTED TO U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY SINCE 1870

10 Grads, 4 Now at West Point

Out of 28 colored men admitted to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point since July 1, 1870, 10 were graduated and four are now enrolled.

The other 14 either resigned or were dropped because of deficiencies. The first graduates all deceased are: Henry O. Flipper, Ga., who finished in June 1877; John H. Alexander, Ohio, 1887; Charles Young, Ohio, 1889.

6 Active Graduates

The graduates now on active duty and the States from which appointed and date of graduation are: Col. B. O. Davis Jr., Ill., graduated 1936, now commanding officer, Godman Field, Ky.; Major James D. Fowler, Illinois, graduated, 1941, with 372nd Infantry Regiment, Central Pacific; Major Clarence M. Davenport, Mich., finished 1943, now with 742nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion, Netherlands E. Indies;

2nd Lt. Henry M. Francis, Ill., finished 1944, with Third Infantry Training Battalion, Ft. McClelland, Ala.; 2nd Lt. Ernest J. Davis Jr., Ill., 1945, Fighter Transition School, Tuskegee Army Air Field, Ala., and 2nd Lt. Mark E. Rivers Jr., N.Y., 1945, Field Artillery School, Ft. Sill, Okla.

One Killed in Action

Capt. Robert B. Tresville Jr. who graduated in 1943, has been declared dead after being missing in action in the Mediterranean where he was squadron commander of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy.

The complete list of those admitted to West Point follows:

Name	Appointed From	Date Admitted	Date Separated
James W. Smith	S.C.	July 1, 1870	June 26, 1874
Henry A. Napier	Tenn.	July 1, 1871	June 30, 1872
Thomas V. R. Gibbs	Fla.	July 1, 1872	Jan. 11, 1873
*Henry O. Flipper	Ga.	July 1, 1873	June 15, 1877
John W. Williams	Va.	July 1, 1873	Jan. 19, 1874
Johnson C. Whittaker	S.C.	Sept. 1, 1876	Mar. 23, 1882
Charles A. Winnie	N.Y.	Sept. 1, 1877	Jan. 18, 1878
*John H. Alexander	Ohio	July 1, 1883	June 12, 1887
*Charles Young	Ohio	June 15, 1884	Aug. 31, 1889
William T. Andrews	S.C.	June 1, 1885	Jan. 21, 1886
William A. Hare	Ohio	June 1, 1885	Jan. 21, 1886
Henry A. Holloway	S.C.	Sept. 1, 1886	Jan. 26, 1887
John B. Alexander	Ohio	June 14, 1918	Dec. 26, 1918
Alonzo S. Parham	Ill.	July 1, 1929	Jan. 14, 1930
*Benjamin O. Davis Jr.	Ill.	July 1, 1932	June 12, 1936
Felix J. Kirkpatrick Jr.	Ill.	July 1, 1935	Dec. 7, 1935
*James D. Fowler	Ill.	July 1, 1937	June 11, 1941
*Clarence M. Davenport	Mich.	July 1, 1939	Jan. 19, 1943
*Robert B. Tresville Jr.	Ill.	July 1, 1939	Jan. 19, 1943
*Henry M. Francis	Ill.	July 1, 1941	June 6, 1944
*Ernest J. Davis Jr.	Ill.	July 20, 1942	June 5, 1945
*Mark E. Rivers Jr.	N.Y.	July 15, 1942	June 5, 1945
Leven C. Weiss	Mich.	July 1, 1942	Jan. 12, 1943
***Andrew A. McCoy Jr.	Pa.	July 1, 1943	...
***Charles L. Smith	Mo.	July 1, 1944	...
***Frank A. Titus	Ill.	July 1, 1944	Aug. 14, 1944
***Edward B. Howard	Ill.	July 2, 1945	...
***Edward R. Wills	Mich.	July 2, 1945	...

* Graduated

** Resigned

*** Presently in Attendance

Six West Point Negro Graduates Now On Active Duty

In the intervening period, July 1, 1870 and July 1, 1945, twenty-eight Negroes have been admitted to the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, the War Department reported today.

Ten of those certified for entrance have graduated with commissions as second lieutenants in the various Arms and Services, one before graduation because of deficiencies, and four are presently pursuing the course of study.

Graduates now on active duty, resigned, thirteen were separated with their assignments: Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Commanding Officer, 477th Composite Group, Godman Field, Kentucky; Major James D. Fowler, 372nd Infantry Regiment, Central Pacific Area; Major Clarence M. Davenport, 742nd Anti-aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion, Netherlands East Indies; Second Lieutenant Henry M. Francis, Third Infantry Training Battalion, Fort McClelland, Alabama; Second Lieutenant Ernest J. Davis, Jr., Fighter Transition School, Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama; and Second Lieutenant Mark E. Rivers, Jr., Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Captain Robert B. Tresville, Jr., squadron commander of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy, has been declared dead after being missing in action in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations.

Nation's Smartest Boy to West Point

The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa. 12-22-45

LOS ANGELES—Nineteen-year-old David K. Carlisle scored the highest grade in the country in West Point entrance examinations, and will enter the U. S. Military Academy in July. He was appointed by Representative Helen Gahagan Douglas (Dem., Calif.)

Mrs. Douglas said she selected the Los Angeles youth because of his high scholastic record.

"I believe in equality for everyone," she said. 12-22-45

Carlisle becomes California's first Negro to accept an appointment to West Point. He was an honor student at Polytechnic High School here, and studied for two years at California Institute of Technology. He has been taking a special course in English literature.

Carlisle was appointed second alternative candidate to the military school by former Congressman Thomas Ford after the youth took the competitive civil service examinations, July 29, 1944. No vacancy existed for his admission that year.

Subsequently, in June of the following year, he left California Tech as a sophomore to take a special six-week course at UCLA in preparation for a competitive examination to West Point. On the basis of his grades, he was named Mrs. Douglas' principal appointee.

REPORTS IN MARCH

He will report to March Field Air Base near Riverside early in March for a physical examination and possible other mental entrance examinations.

He is a native of Los Angeles. His father is a trainman for the Los Angeles Transit Lines, and his mother is a Post Office clerk. He has one brother. The family resides at 462 E. Forty-second Place.

STRAIGHT "A" AVERAGE
Carlisle maintained a straight "A" average in high school, and finished the prep course in two and one-half years. At California Tech he majored in electrical engineering.

For the past two months he has been employed as a reporter for the Los Angeles Tribune.

There are four Negroes now enrolled at West Point.



The Pittsburgh Courier
SELECTED DAVID—Congresswoman Helen Gahagan Douglas (Dem., Calif.), wife of movie star Melvin Douglas, has appointed 19-year-old David K. Carlisle of Los Angeles to the U. S. Military Academy.



12-22-45
NATION'S SMARTEST—Nineteen-year-old David K. Carlisle of Los Angeles will enter the U. S. Military Academy at West Point in July.

Gen. Davis Retires From Active Duty

People's Post

WASHINGTON (ANP)—Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, Sr., will retire from active duty in the army Dec. 31. Gen. Davis was promoted to brigadier general, Oct. 25, 1945 and retired in July, 1941.



He was immediately recalled to active duty and has served with the inspector general's office, acting as trouble shooter principally on problems involving colored troops. He will revert to the status of colonial as is customary upon retirement. 12-29-45

Gen. Davis is the first Negro to serve in the regular army of the United States as a brigadier general. Illinois has had two brigadier generals in its state militia, a title given them when they retired as colonels of the old 8th Illinois Infantry. They are the late Gen. Franklin Dennison and General Spencer C. Dickerson, Chicago physician.

Unusual Scholastic Record Made by West Point Nominee

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

LOS ANGELES—Beseiged by newspaper and newsreel representatives, 18-year-old David Carlisle this week finds himself the center of wide attention as the result of his tradition-breaking appointment to West Point by Cong. Helen Gahagan Douglas. 12-29-45

Carlisle, an honor graduate of Polytechnic High School, and who has completed two years of an electrical engineering course at California Institute of Technology, was last year appointed second alternate candidate to West Point by Cong. Thomas Ford, after having placed third in competitive civil service examinations.

Carlisle was informed of the appointment, probably the first choice of its kind in this district, by a telegram from Miss Evelyn Chavoor, secretary to Mrs. Douglas, two days before the actual nomination. 12-29-45

Born in Los Angeles, young Carlisle's grammar school and high school records are studded with awards and scholarship honors.

In fifth grade he received the American Legion award as the outstanding boy in the school of all white attendance with the exception of he and his two cousins.

He served as editor of the school paper in both junior and senior high school, maintaining a straight "A" average and graduating two days before his 17th birthday. 12-29-45

In technical college he was the only freshman on the student board of control and was chairman of the freshman class. In his sophomore year, he played left guard on the Cal. Tech. football team during the spring practice in 1945, but left before the end of the season.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Carlisle of Los Angeles.

Jim Crow Policy Of The American Legion In The South Is Bared

Houston, Texas

By JOHN E. ROUSSEAU, JR.

NEW ORLEANS, La. —Despite the fact that Louisiana Negroes are drafted into the nation's armed forces under the same statutes as all other Americans and although Louisiana Negroes are presently serving on all battlefronts, giving their very lives in order that Democracy will be perpetuated in America and established on a world-wide basis, Negro veterans mander declared them to be:

First—To exert all our efforts to Louisiana may not become members of the American Legion for those who return torn in body and mind and spirit. To assist this program the Legion has established a medical advisory board of eminent physicians.

Second—To open the gates of opportunity to the able-bodied, so that those whose careers were impaired by service during the war may be helped in starting their civilian life anew. To this end the Legion had advocated mustering out pay, and had sponsored the G. I. Bill of Rights with provisions for assisting them in establishing a business, obtaining a home, getting a job.

Third—The widows and orphans of those who sacrificed their lives must never be left in want.

Fourth—A system of universal military training, advocated by the Legion for a quarter of a century, for the two-fold purpose of an adequate national defense and physical protection of the national health.

Fifth—We hold that all persons who accept the protection and benefits of a free government owe a part of their property, money, opportunity and life itself to the preservation of that government.

"The National Commander concluded by declaring that the vast organization of the American Legion stands ready to aid in the cause of the men and women who have sacrificed for their country—whether at the combat front or at home upon military order."

Representing the American Legion, National Commander Edward Scheiberling appeared before the House Committee on World War Legislation in Washington during January. The House Committee is headed by Congressman John Rankin of Mississippi.

It is hoped that the existing conditions in the South regarding Negro membership in the American Legion will be corrected by National officials, observers said. And it is not suggested or hoped that the system of jim crow posts will be used to alleviate the conditions they declared.

This hope, it was pointed out, has been caused by the recent action

American Legion

and statement of policy of the American Legion with regard to the Hood River, Oregon affair in which the American Legion Post in that city was asked by National Commander Edward N. Scheiberling to restore the erased names of 15 of the 16 American-born Japanese to the community honor roll.

Considerable publicity followed the action of the Hood River Post in erasing the names on November 29, 1944, when the post officials claimed they had no assurance that the men whose names were taken off had forsworn a dual citizenship (which they said the Japanese government claimed existed for all Japanese born in the United States.)

Message

The Commander's message to the Hood River Post stated in part: "I believe it will be to the best interest of the war effort and of the American Legion to restore at once to the honor roll the names of those removed with the exception of one individual, who, I am advised, was discharged dishonorably from the army. Reports indicate all others whose names were removed are serving honorably in the armed forces, many on overseas battlefields."

"The action of your post has brought much unfavorable publicity and criticism to the American Legion and your action was officially called to my attention by the War Department."

In conclusion, the Commander's message stated: "The American Legion has always maintained that bigotry and race hatred have no place in American Life, and the action of this one individual post of more than 12,245 posts of the American Legion, was ill-considered and contrary to the ideals and purposes for which the American Legion is organized."

LEGION BARS CHICAGO DEFENDER NEGRO WAR VETS

By JOHN E. ROUSSEAU JR.

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

NEW ORLEANS — Action was taken this week to force Louisiana's ill-white American Legion to accept Negro veterans of World War II.

Negro newspapermen here, it was reliably reported, will bring the situation to the attention of National Commander Edward N. Scheiberling and National Adjutant Donald C. Glascoff of the American Legion.

In seven southern states Negroes are not accepted for membership in the Legion. They are not even allowed to organize jim crow posts in Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia

Soldiers

and Alabama.

Seeking clarification of Louisiana's policy, Negro leaders here visited Matt Monaghan, at Legion headquarters in the Masonic Temple here on Saturday.

Official Evades Issue

"Those who wish information about joining the American Legion should write to Mr. Stegall in Nashville, Tenn., Monaghan told the delegation."

The jim crow practice of the American Legion in southern states is deplored especially when it is considered how that organization occupies an important place in the nation's setup for handling the affairs and services of war veterans, interested observers declared.

This jim crow practice is indeed compatible with the policy stated in the February issue of the National Legionnaire, official organ of the American Legion, it was pointed out.

Rep. Rankin Heads Committee

Listing five objectives of the American Legion, the National Commander concluded, "The vast organization of the American Legion stands ready to aid in the cause of the men and women who have sacrificed for their country—whether at the combat front or at home upon military orders."

Representing the Legion, National Commander Edward Scheiberling appeared before the House committee on World War Legislation in Washington during January. The House committee is headed by Mississippi's Congressman Rankin.

"It is hoped that the existing conditions in the South regarding Negro membership in the American Legion will be corrected by national officials," Negro leaders stated following their conference this week. "It is not suggested nor hoped that the system of jim crow posts will be used to alleviate the condition," they declared.

Cite Hood River Scandal

This hope, it was pointed out, has been caused by the recent action and statement of policy of the Legion with regard to the Hood River, Oregon affair, in which the Legion post in that city was asked by the National Commander to restore the erased names of 15 of the 16 American-born Japanese to the community honor roll.

"The American Legion has always maintained that bigotry and race hatred have no place in American life," the National Commander wrote the Hood River post. "The action of this one individual post of more than 12,245 posts of the American Legion, was ill-considered and ill-advised and contrary to the ideals and purposes for which the American Legion is organized."

Louisiana Joins 6 States Refusing Legion Affiliation

Baltimore, Md.

NEW ORLEANS—Although its national commander recently stated: "The American Legion has always maintained that bigotry and race hatred have no place in the American life," colored veterans may not become members of any Louisiana posts, it was learned here.

By its bias, Louisiana has joined six other Southern States which have denied to colored veterans the right to set up even jim-crow posts. They are Mississippi, Arkansas, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia and Alabama.

Although they were drafted and although many are serving overseas, "Those who wish information about joining the American Legion should write to Nashville," Matt Monaghan, State Leg Commander concluded, "The vast organization of the American Legion stands ready to aid in the cause of the men and women who have sacrificed for their country—whether at the combat front or at home upon military orders."

Representing the Legion, National Commander Edward Scheiberling appeared before the House committee on World War Legislation in Washington during January. The House committee is headed by Mississippi's Congressman Rankin.

"It is hoped that the existing conditions in the South regarding Negro membership in the American Legion will be corrected by national officials," Negro leaders stated following their conference this week. "It is not suggested nor hoped that the system of jim crow posts will be used to alleviate the condition," they declared.

The statement of the national command, Edward Scheiberling was made when he advised the Hood River Post in Oregon to restore the erased names of fifteen of sixteen American-born Japanese to the community honor roll.

Cleve Abbott Heads Legion Post

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. — At the annual election of officers of the Britton G. McKenzie Post No. 150, the American Legion, for the year 1945-1946, held at Post Headquarters this week Cleve L. Abbott, World War I veteran, was named Commander. He succeeds Roger L. McDonald who was serving the Post for the second time as commander.

Officers elected to serve during the ensuing year: Guy R. Pickett, First Vice-Commander; Calvin Jeter, Second Vice-Commander; James Saunders World War II, Adjutant; Walter Vines, Finance Officer, reelected; Julian L. Brown, Chaplain, reelected; W. B. Wrenn, Historian, reelected; Jeff Russell, Sergeant-At-Arms, reelected.

John W. Lockett, Tuskegee; Robert Springfield, Birmingham and Ledyard Sampson, Mobile were elected members of the Executive Committee.

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American Legion To Have Colored Post

A special meeting of the American Legion is called by Post Commander Ralph Roesch for Thursday evening, June 7, to be held in Odd Fellows' hall for the purpose of initiating 15 colored servicemen as charter members of the newly organized Dunnigan-Gant Post, No. 562. The Post is named after the first two colored Sandusky soldiers to lose their lives in World War II. W. E. Knalley, county commander of the American Legion, Milan Post, is the organizer.

The charter members to be initiated include: Fred Christian, Walter Garrett, Shields Alexander, James Davis, Joseph Alson, Fred Dixon, Arthur Turner, Harold O. Rice, Harold Brown, Buddy Alexander, Joseph T. Jefferson, Alonzo Sykes, John Burns, Charlie King and Arthur Biddle.

Col. Karl E. Whinnery will address the meeting following the initiation ceremonies. The American Legion invites all friends and relatives of the 15 charter members as well as all discharged or furloughed servicemen of Erie-co to attend the meeting. It was estimated by an American Legion spokesman that there are approximately 200 colored ex-servicemen in the county.

So. Carolina Legionnaires Refuse to Drop Racial Ban

ORANGEBURG, S. C. (ANP) — The South Carolina State department of the American Legion has rejected the plea of Negro South Carolina veterans for membership in the organization. Walter R. Donaldson, commander of the N. C. Nix Veterans post here at S. C. State College, declared Tuesday.

As to the action taken by the executive board in turning down the Negroes' request for membership, J. J. Bullard, department adjutant of Columbia wrote Mr. Donaldson: "I presented the matter that you asked me to them and as they

State Legion to Decide On Headquarters Shift

Alexandria, Va., Aug. 8 (AP). — Resolutions favoring the transfer of State headquarters of the American Legion from Richmond to Charlottesville will be presented at the Virginia department convention of the Legion at Charlottesville on September 10.

Adopted here at a meeting of the eight district Saturday, the resolutions to be presented to the larger body also call for an increase of the legion districts from nine to 18 and appointment of a Negro assistant adjutant to have jurisdiction over State Negro post activities.

BRITTON McKENZIE POST TO ACQUIRE HOME

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. — The Britton G. McKenzie Post No. 130, of the American Legion, at Tuskegee Institute, has begun an active campaign to increase its membership. Guy Pickett, First Vice Commander, is in charge of the membership program. Assisting him in the campaign are past commanders Roger E. McDonald, James A. Johnson, E. H. Cravens, Lewis W. Driver, Archie Yates and James A. Kennedy.

The Post has an enrollment of more than 300 World War I and World War II ex-servicemen, and plans are being made to acquire a home.

Cleve L. Abbott, Director of Athletics at Tuskegee Institute, was recently elected Post Commander.

veterans living under jim crow laws. A very slight possibility exists that white Legionnaires from Atlanta may unite with liberal forces next year to amend the national organization's constitution and by-laws on state's rights. The all-white Atlanta post has 3,000 members but they are unhappy because small posts throughout the state have succeeded in nullifying their national representation. They are now trying to have the national body to intercede in their behalf reports say.

OPTIMISM SHOWN

Three reasons were given why Negro Legionnaires are optimistic about favorable action by the national group next year on the question of the right of Negro vets in some southern areas to organize their own independent posts. They are:

1. The rapid return of World War II veterans and their enrollment into the American Legion.
2. The tolerant attitude of young white veterans on questions affecting the rights of Negro soldiers.

American Legion to take up the matter of forcing the Southern States to grant said charters. He said the question would have to be approached from the angle of education of Negroes in the South on the ways and means of running a Post properly and discussion with the "Southern fathers" across a table in the proper manner. It is thought that this would be the best method of getting the results desired rather than by arbitrary resolutions at the national conventions.

TEXAS DROPS RACE DESIGNATION

According to the constitution of the Legion all Post charters are granted from the national body, but on the other hand, the State Advocate General must pass on them before they are sent to National Headquarters. In a few Southern States Negroes have been granted charters and Posts are operating successfully.

In Texas, the State constitution of the American Legion formerly read "... the membership to the Legion in this State is open to male white only." The word "white" has recently been removed. It is thought that Negro legionnaires are making progress but that progress is slow.

Legion Defers Action On Ending Color Bar

By LUTHER A. TOWNSLEY
CHICAGO — (ANP) — Negro veterans of five southern states will have to wait another year before they can expect to enjoy the right to organize, or join, American Legion posts.

During the three hilarious convention days here, three resolutions to abolish jim crow within the great American Legion, representing approximately 1,500,000 World War I and II vets, were politely deferred, or put aside until next year when the national executive committee is supposed to have adequately studied the question of racial discrimination which denies former Negro fighting men the right to form Legion posts in southern states.

"HUSH-HUSH" AIR

A "hush-hush" atmosphere prevailed whenever the racial or religious issue was projected and extreme care was taken to block publicity about committee meetings where racial and religious issues were discussed. The Johnnie Baker post, Minneapolis, the Giles Post, Chicago, and James E. Walker Post No. 26, Washington, were among the many Legion posts known to have protested the plight of Negro

3. Any compromise by the national organization to block a public hearing.

ANTI-BIAS RESOLUTION

No protests are known to have been launched by Negro veterans against veteran jim crow hospitals but an anti-discrimination resolution was adopted by the national body on the GI bill of rights.

The convention brought together about 200 Negro Legionnaires, among whom were approximately 60 to 70 delegates and alternate delegates.

American Legion Ducks Race Issue

By CHARLIE DAVIS, Indianapolis Correspondent

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — The executive committee of the national body of the American Legion met here in a three-day session, but did not consider the age old question, of what is to be done about Southern States refusing charters to Negro Legion Posts. The touchy query was raised at the Chicago National Convention of the Legion this past summer and at that time the resolutions committee rejected it.

The Judge Advocate of the national body stated that the national committee would have no jurisdiction under the constitution of the

Survey of Veterans' Organizations

Baltimore, Md.

Shows Only Few Open to All Minorities

Afro-American
VFW Still Has Separate Posts, Allied and Disabled Vets' Groups Welcome Colored Men

By MICHAEL CARTER

NEW YORK — The Veterans of Foreign Wars have made no big racial advances since 1918.

Colored soldiers who qualified by having overseas service in the American forces were eligible to membership in jim-crow posts in that year. The same policy exists in 1945.

There are a few cases on record of colored members in white posts, but these are rare, New York office spokesmen said.

Tan Yanks Not Recruited

The VFW, like other veterans' organizations, recruits men while they are still in overseas service but has, however, made no special effort to recruit colored soldiers.

According to the New York of-

EDITOR'S NOTE: Michael Carter, writing in the Dec. 8 issue of the AFRO-AMERICAN, revealed for the first time the attitudes of several veterans' organizations towards colored ex-service men. This, the final installment in his story, was delayed because he had been promised a "new statement on race" from the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The statement has not yet been received.]

ice of the outfit, "colored boys are welcome—perfectly welcome—but of course they have their own posts. Makes 'em happier," a spokesman said.

N.Y. Post I'raised

In New York City, they have the Dorrence Brooks Post which the VFW describes as "one of our best posts."

There is reported to be some interracial mixing on the upper levels of membership and in executive posts, but there are no national colored officers, according to the N.Y. office.

At its annual convention, the VFW ordinarily goes on record as being in "favor of": racial harmony, democracy and increased Congressional grants for veterans.

In its day-to-day practices, it exerts itself for the latter. The former is just theory, a colored veteran told the AFRO.

CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS

—Because it accepts only veterans of the Roman Catholic faith, this organization is necessarily limited.

For the most part, posts are built around parishes. Thus, if a

colored veteran happens to be a member of a mixed church he may presumably join the veterans' organization there.

No Colored Officers

On the national level there are no colored officers and no colored workers are employed at New York headquarters. There appears to be only one really jim crow post in the country which is St. Cyprian's in Washington.

From the literature issued by the CWV and from talks with their New York executives, the organization seems to be primarily concerned with a general fight against anything which it calls "communist."

JEWISH WAR VETERANS

"No colored Jewish veteran ever applied for membership," the New York office of this organization said.

The AFRO was assured that in the event any colored Jewish war veteran did apply, he would be accorded full rights in the organization. There are many colored Jews in America.

Allied Veterans' Democratic

Reports on some of the 65 newer organizations covered in the AFRO's survey follow:

ALLIED VETERANS OF AMERICA — National headquarters of this organization are located in Nebraska. It has no considerable colored membership, but its constitution is about as democratic as the highly liberal American Veterans' Committee.

AMERICAN VETERANS' PARTY — This is purely a New York City political party which endorses veterans for office. It has not yet endorsed a colored veteran, but so far, become involved in only one election.

Many AMVET Groups

AMERICAN VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II, Inc. (AMVETS) — Originally organized by a Washington Star reporter, this outfit has split into several groups and is ridden with internecine quarrels and divisions.

The national headquarters now seems to be in Texas and the entire organization, or the Texas branch of it, is violently anti-labor and anti-colored. There are several organizations operating under this name.

"Christian" and Fascist Groups

CHRISTIAN WAR VETERANS

—This group is related in an obscure way to Gerald L. K. Smith and subscribes to his news service. It operates for "Christians only," and has headquarters in Los Angeles.

COMMITTEE VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II — Located in Chicago, this organization, like many of the others, is small, fascist-minded, and has anti-Semitic, anti-colored persons on its staff.

Southern Groups

THE FIGHT FOR FREE ENTERPRISE — Organized in Texas, this group has no colored members, battles labor organization and is not purely a veterans' outfit.

GLOBAL WAR VETERANS — Columbia, Tenn., is the headquarters for this group. Its membership blanks has space for checking applicant's race as "white" or "colored."

MILITARY ORDER OF THE LIBERTY BELL — Founded by a Virginian in Washington, this organization is strongly racial.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART — The order presumably grants membership only to Purple Heart holders. It has headquarters in Chicago and is opposed to minority groups.

All Races Welcome

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS — This is a very old, carefully organized group. Its membership qualifications make it exclusive, as only men who were wounded in action may become members.

In New York City, colored men have equal membership with whites. This is particularly true in the Amps Chapter, for men who have lost limbs.

It appears that there is no segregation in this particular chapter and its sole colored member, in Brooklyn, reports "the guys are swell."

That colored member paid a high price for this sort of treatment. It cost him one leg.